

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 11, 19 and 34 as follows:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A tire rolling storage rack system comprising:

a plurality of tire storage racks having spaced horizontally extending crossbars with a fully open gap therebetween for supporting tires with a portion of the tires hanging below the crossbars and a portion of the tires extending laterally beyond the crossbars, the plurality of tire storage racks including movable storage racks and fixed storage racks,

a guide arrangement for guiding movement of the movable storage racks,

each of said movable storage racks including lower wheels for rolling in contact with a floor, said lower wheels being vertically oriented, and

at least one spacing element extending laterally from the racks a distance to separate the racks and to prevent tires on one rack from contacting tires on an adjacent rack by controlling an amount of space between adjacent ones of said plurality of storage racks when a spacing element of one of the plurality of storage racks contacts a spacing element of an adjacent one of the plurality of storage racks

so that when adjacent spacing elements are in contact, the spacing elements provide a separation between the racks to avoid contact of tires on adjacent racks,

said guide arrangement extending between the fixed storage racks,

said guide arrangement including a guide rod,

said guide rod cooperating with a guide sleeve mounted on an upper end of the movable storage racks, said guide sleeve encircling said guide rod,

the guide sleeve being mounted on a plate, the plate forming the spacing element.

12. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said spacing element includes at least one arm located spaced from the storage rack on which the spacing element is mounted.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said lower wheels are encased in a protective boot.

17. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 11, wherein a plurality of tires are located on said plurality of storage racks.

18. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the guide arrangement is anchored to said fixed storage racks.

19. (Currently Amended) A tire rolling storage rack system comprising a plurality of tire storage racks having spaced horizontally extending crossbars with a fully open gap therebetween for supporting tires with a portion of the tires hanging below the crossbars and a portion of the tires extending laterally beyond the crossbars, the plurality of tire storage racks including movable storage racks, said movable storage racks being movable between fixed elements located at opposite sides of a group of the movable storage racks, the movable storage racks including lower wheels for rolling in contact with the floor,

a guide arrangement for guiding movement of the movable storage racks, and at least one spacing element extending laterally from the racks a distance to separate the racks and to prevent tires on one rack from contacting tires on an adjacent rack by controlling an amount of space between adjacent ones of the movable storage racks so that when adjacent spacing elements are in contact, the

spacing elements provide a separation between the racks to avoid contact of the tires on adjacent racks,

said guide arrangement extending between the fixed elements,

said guide arrangement including a guide rod,

said guide rod cooperating with a guide sleeve mounted on an upper end of the movable storage racks, said guide sleeve encircling said guide rod,

the guide sleeve being mounted on a plate, the plate forming the spacing element.

20-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fixed elements are fixed storage racks.

30. (Previously Presented) A tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 19, wherein a plurality of tires are located on said plurality of storage racks.

31. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the guide sleeve is a hollow tube.

32. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 31, wherein the guide rod has a diameter of one to two inches.

33. (Previously Presented) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 19, wherein a separation distance between the guide sleeve and the guide rod is 1/16 to 1/8 inch.

34. (Currently Amended) The tire rolling storage rack system as claimed in claim 33, wherein a ~~low friction~~ material is located between the guide sleeve and the guide rod to facilitate sliding of the guide rod within the guide sleeve.